A MULTI-USE GRAPHICS DISPLAY ENCLOSURE ASSEMBLY DETACHABLY ATTACHED WITH CONCEALED MEANS TO AND MADE INTEGRAL WITH ANY OF A VARIETY OF ASSEMBLED ARTIFACTS, THE DECOR INSERT IN SAID ENCLOSURE SUBJECT TO REPEATED CHANGES BY OWNER.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The basic engineering design of two of the most common home and office artifacts, wall plates and picture frames, is obsolete.

Wall plates, commonly referred to as switch plates and/or receptacle plates, are mandated by law in every nation where electricity is available, are commonly attached to switches and receptacles with highly visible and unsightly screws, and cannot be personalized or customized to fit the character of the home or office occupant, nor can they be customized or otherwise changed to blend with the wall covering or other room decor.

Picture frames are commonly assemblies of unlimited and disparate frame decor, materials, sizes and colors, often perforated or of open wire, etc.

The primary, if not only reason for the frame, i.e., the picture or other decor insert that is enclosed, is commonly overwhelmed by the gaudiness or the seeming primacy of the frame. As important, current picture frames are designed to only hang on a wall or sit on a desk or shelf. They are not designed in standard sizes for diverse use, to function with apertures as switch/receptacle plates, to attach without apertures to common home and

office artifacts such as bread boxes, napkin holders, book ends, awards products, file folder holders or magnetized to attach to numerous metal products and the like. Also inhibiting the use of conventional picture frames for such use is the conventional frame design which commonly requires that the decor insert, the enclosed picture, can only be changed from the back.

Clearly, the combination of concealed attachment means and possible frequent changes of the enclosed decor, be it a picture, drawing, pressed flowers or what have you, requires an assembly in which the rear part of the assembly is attached to those various artifacts, and the front part of the assembly, the frame and shield, professionally attach to the that rear part that is held in place by concealed fastening means such as flathead screws.

While the "picture frame look" of the graphics display-enclosure assembly used in variations of this invention has, with the exception of the apertures in the switch and/or receptacle plates, a commonality of size and finished look, numerous sizes, shapes and simple frame designs are possible without leaving the design and engineering principles on which this invention is based.

All of the frames in the variations of this invention are designed to be transparent, some of them with custom color insert channels that allow the buyer to custom color the frame, and then to change the color or omit any color if they so desire.

SPECIFICATION

A multi-use graphics display-enclosure assembly comprised of

1. a base plate detachably attachable with concealed means over and to other artifact assemblies;

2. a decor insert-backer plate;

3. one or more decor inserts;

4. a transparent shield;

5. a frame that peripherally encloses said base plate, decor backer plate, inserts and shield, and unites them into a unit that is integral with artifact assembly to which said unit is attached,

6. a variety of concealable attachment means.

(A) 1 may have functional apertures therein;

(B) 2, 3 and 4 may or may not have functional apertures therein;

(C) 4 and 5 may be integral;

(D) 5 may be transparent or opaque;

(E) 5, if transparent, may or may not have a custom color insert channel;

(F) 5 may or may not have, if 5 and 4 are integral, the lower frame channels to give access to a frame extraction hook;

(G) 4 may or may not have two-dimensional graphics or three-dimensional figures detachably attached to its face;

(H) 5,latching nodes, while paired on each side, are offset from the three pairs on other sides to, by turning the frame 90, 180 or 270 degrees before snapping it over 1, 2, 3 and 4, virtually eliminate the wear on the node latching points on the periphery of 1 that could be caused by hundreds of assembly-disassembly cycles, if the nodes were identically positioned on all four sides.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a front elevational view of a straight-sided configuration of a double switch plate illustrating but one embodiment of this invention.

FIG. 2 is a front elevational view of an oval-sided configuration of a single switch plate illustrating another embodiment of this invention.

FIG. 3 is a front elevational view of another embodiment of this invention integrating a wood holder of file folders, books, napkins or the like with this graphics display-enclosure assembly.

FIG. 4 is a side elevational view of this embodiment of this invention.

FIG. 5 illustrates, in cross-sectional detail, one configuration of the periphery of one embodiment of the graphics display-enclosure assembly element of this invention.

FIG. 6 illustrates, in cross-sectional detail, another configuration of the periphery of another embodiment of the graphics display-enclosure assembly element of this invention.

FIG. 7 illustrates, in cross-sectional detail, another configuration of the periphery of another embodiment of the graphics display-enclosure assembly element of this invention, this element having a three dimensional shield.

FIG. 8 is a front elevational view of an embodiment of a graphics display-enclosure element of this invention illustrating only one configuration of a base plate and frame with one assembly and attachment means delineated thereon.

FIG. 9 illustrates a front elevational view of one embodiment of the graphics display-enclosure assembly element of this invention having an award ribbon, decorative ring and medallion removably attached thereto and thereby made an integral part of the assembled whole.

FIG. 10 illustrates an exploded cross-sectional detailed side view of the individual segments of the embodiment of this invention as delineated in **FIG. 9**.

FIG. 11 is a side view of the assembled configuration of this embodiment of this invention as delineated in **FIG. 9** and **FIG. 10**.

FIG. 12 is a front elevational view of the tool used to initiate the disassembly of one configuration of the graphics display-enclosure as illustrated in **FIG. 7**.

FIG. 13 illustrates, in cross-sectional detail, another configuration of the periphery of yet another embodiment of the graphics display-enclosure assembly element of this invention.

FIG. 14 is a front elevational view of another embodiment of this invention, further illustrating the diverse combinations of various artifacts that can be combined to fit the scope of this invention.

FIG. 15 is a front elevational view of interlocking combinations of another embodiment of this invention as delineated in **FIG. 14**.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 illustrates a front elevational view of one preferred configuration of a graphics display-enclosure switch plate assembly with frame **1**, wood veneer insert sans shield **33**, and two switch apertures **20**, this embodiment of a wall plate having straight sides.

FIG. 2 is a front elevational view of another preferred configuration of a graphics display-enclosure switch plate assembly with frame **1**, transparent shield **2**, and a switch aperture **20**, this embodiment of a wall plate having oval sides.

FIG. 3 is a front elevational view of this invention as but one integrated combination of

one configuration of two graphics display-enclosure assemblies detachably secured with concealed means to a wood holder assembly **52** of desk-top **54** file folders, table-top napkins, being-read books and the like. The two graphics display-enclosures are simply delineated by the detachable frame **1** and transparent shield **2**, this embodiment of the graphics display-enclosure having no visible apertures.

FIG. 4 is an end elevational view of this embodiment of this invention illustrating again the detachable frames **1**, transparent shield **2** and holder assembly **52** sitting on a table or desk top **54**.

FIG. 5 is a detailed cross-sectional view of one configuration of a frame **13** with integral shield **22**, the transparent frame **13** having the color insert channel 7, disassembly-hook channel **31**, frame-latching nodes **6**, base plate **5** and wall **51**.

FIG. 6 is a detailed cross-sectional view of another configuration of a frame **1** with separate transparent shield **2**, decor insert **3**, decor plate **4**, base plate **5**, frame-latching nodes **6**, color insert channel 7, a color insert **8** and wall **51**.

FIG. 7 is yet another detailed cross-sectional view of a frame **12**, color insert channel 7, and disassembly-hook **37**. This cross section also illustrates a three-dimensional shield **11**, decor insert **3**, decor plate **4**, base plate **5** and frame-latching nodes **6**, this assembly having a three-dimensional shield **11** to accommodate a three-dimensional decor which might, for example, include a butterfly or flowers attached to a conventionally thin, two-dimensional insert **3**.

FIG. 8 is a skeletonized front elevational view of one embodiment of a graphics display-enclosure sans decor plate, decor and decor shield, this to illustrate the offsetting relationship of each pair of latching nodes, i.e., AA, AB, BB, BC, CC, CD,

DD, DA, and AA-CC, BB-DD, all listed as **6** on this drawing. Said frame-latching nodes **6**, all parts of the lower inside of the frame **1** but latching onto the periphery of the base plate **5** in which are shown toggle switch apertures **20** and attachment means apertures **32**.

FIG. 9 is a front elevational view of one embodiment of this invention illustrating a graphics display-enclosure assembly of which only the frame **1** and shield **2** are shown on a top-fold ribbon **40** to which is attached, by entwining, said graphics display-enclosure assembly. The top-fold ribbon **40** hangs from a brass or other metal ring **41**, and one example of a laudatory medallion **42** is, by concealed means, attached to ribbon **40** under the graphics display-enclosure assembly.

FIG. 10 illustrates a disassembled view of this embodiment of this invention as shown assembled in **FIG. 9**.

The ribbon **40** is shown forward of the base plate **5** and display plane **51**, be that plane a conventional wall, a glass panel or other material plane. Forward of the ribbon **40** is the decor plate **4**, decor insert **3** which in the illustrated embodiment would be a photograph, in front of which is the transparent shield **2** and the frame **1** with frame-latching nodes **6** and color insert channels 7. The ribbon **40** is top-folded through ring **41**. A medallion **42** of brass-coated steel **42** is attached to ribbon **40** with a magnet **43** behind said ribbon **40**.

FIG. 11 illustrates a side view of all of the components delineated in the disassembly in **FIG. 10**, fully assembled excepting the ring **41**, showing the ribbon **40** entwined within the assembly which is removably attached to a wall plane **51** with a concealed hanging device **50** adhered to the back of the base plate **5**. This illustration of the assembly delineates the medallion **42** removably attached to ribbon **40** with a magnet **43** concealed behind the medallion **42** and ribbon **40**.

FIG. 12 is a front elevational view of the disassembly hook **37** first illustrated in a side view in **FIG.** 7.

FIG. 13 is another detailed sectional view of a frame **14** assembled over a base plate **5** with frame-latching nodes **6**, said frame peripherally enclosing the shield **2**, decor insert **3** and decor plate **4**, and joining these components into a functional unit that can be detachably attached to a wall **51**.

FIG. 14 illustrates another embodiment of this invention showing a frame **1** and transparent shield **2**, these the visible components of the complete graphics display-enclosure assembly which is detachably attached by concealed means to a two piece rigid wood or plastic backer **53** on which are also removably attached with concealed means medallions **55** and **56**.

FIG. 15 illustrates a modular, or multiple assembly of this embodiment of this invention, employing cutaway drawings to delineate the graphics display-enclosure base plate **5**, decor plate **4**, decor insert **3**, transparent shield **2**, and frame **1**. A rigid wood or plastic backer **53** having apertures **32** for means to attach graphics display-enclosure base plates **5** thereto with attachment screws **33** shown in the cutaway drawing base plate **5**.

The apertures **32** in the rigid backer **53** are for the detachable attachment of generic medallions such as **55** in **FIG. 14**, and personal-specific medallions **56** under the graphics display-enclosure assembly.

The rigid backer **53** sections are sized and apertured to assemble into multiples when joined by concealed means in the apertures **32** in the base plate **5** matched with apertures **32** in the rigid backer **53**.

CONSPECTUS

The heart of this invention, the multi-use graphics display-enclosure assembly, was designed to supply a broad market with an innovative product which, because the only two parts of the attached assembly that are visible, the frame and the shield, are transparent, thus cannot be the wrong color or character. The buyer supplies and simply inserts the desired color in the frame color channel, and chooses the character and color of the decor insert.

If the buyer wants a different frame color, the color insert is easily changed. If the buyer wants no frame color, they simply leave the frame as they buy it, transparent.

If the buyer doesn't like their initial choice of insert decor, they simply change it.

If the buyer wishes to redecorate a home or office, change a nursery to a kindergartner's domain, make a just-married 21 year old offspring's room an office, or if they are just tired of the year-old wall plate decor, no problem, they simply change that insert. They do not have to shop for a new wall plate, they create it.

The decor insert is protected by an easy-to-keep-clean transparent shield, and the custom color insert channel is similarly protective of that frame insert.

The drawings illustrate only a double switch, switch-receptacle or double receptacle plate width, even for single switches and single receptacles. The single switch or single receptacle aperture asymmetrically located on a double plate width assembly is a deliberate design decision, this to give the buyer/owner the meaningful space for the decor insert, be that insert a child's drawing, a botanical print, genuine wildflowers or a butterfly, ad infinitum. Single switch and single receptacle plates are included within the scope of this invention.

These multi-use graphics display-enclosure assemblies are designed to be, with concealed means, detachably attached to numerous artifacts commonly utilized in the home and office, thereby creating new entities that can be simply and professionally personalized or customized, and as easily changed, "redecorated", by the buyer or owner.

Broadly, graphics display-enclosure assemblies may be classified:

A. with apertures of various sizes and shapes, commonly used as switch and/or receptacle plates, communications outlet plates and the like, and

B. sans apertures, commonly attached to holders of napkins and file folders, to book ends, to award assemblies and the like.

Magnetized, they attach to file cabinets, refrigerators and the like.

The design principles of this multi-use graphics display-enclosure assembly, whether used with apertures as a wall plate or sans apertures detachably attached to ancillary assemblies such as a holder for file folders, napkins and the like, cover and protect all sizes and configurations of graphics display assemblies, whether the display is enclosed as an insert or attached to the face of the shield, that embody the principles delineated and described in this invention.